21st January 1950]

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I ask, Sir, if the Government have considered the desirability of auctioning the sites instead of renting them out at various rates? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I have already said, Sir, that the question of auctioning the sites is under the consideration of the Government."

Alleged increase of immoral traffic in the Madras City.

* 118 *Q.*—MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that immoral traffic in Madras is very high;

(*b*) whether the Government intend taking steps to check this evil which is ruining the health and morality of the people of the Province; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the incidence of venereal diseases in Madras is high?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) The Government are already enforcing the relevant provisions of the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930 wherever necessary;

" (*c*) The Government have no definite information, as many venereal patients apparently go to private doctors. All that can be said is that facilities are being gradually extended for treatment of venereal diseases in Government medical institutions, and some patients get themselves treated in those institutions."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that it is on the increase in the City seeing that figures have been quoted publicly by venereal diseases experts in the City that the incidence of the diseases is higher? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The information with the Government is otherwise; if the hon. Member gives me better information, I am prepared to take it. The increase in the incidence of venereal diseases necessarily does not mean that there is more immoral traffic."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that solicitation goes on in the main streets of the City and reports have been brought to us to that effect? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I am sorry I am not aware of the solicitation that is going on in the City (laughter) but as effective measures as are possible to prevent an offence like this, are being taken."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is it in order for an Hon. Minister to say that he is not aware of what is happening in the Province? " (Laughter.)

[21st January 1950

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" It is quite in order for a Minister to say that he was not the object of such solicitation." (Laughter.)

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" Will the Hon. Minister consider the question of providing poor women with work so that there will be less of immoral traffic? "

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not know if it will solve the question ; the point is the question of work for them and for what particular purpose they could be employed." (Laughter.)

Dr. SYED TAJUDDIN :—" May I know, Sir, if all the Government hospitals at least have been provided with expert doctors to deal with venereal diseases? "

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I think there is a venereal section in all headquarters hospitals in the districts but I am unable to give information with reference to the taluk hospitals."

Dr. SYED TAJUDDIN :—" Will the Government consider the feasibility of having experts in the taluk headquarters hospitals also? "

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—" That is a question, Sir, which has to be put to my Hon. Colleague the Public Health Minister."

Mrs. M. HENSMAN :—" Are the Government aware that one welfare worker cannot cover the whole of the City of Madras? "

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Certainly, I agree, Sir, that the number of welfare workers is not sufficient and it is difficut for one welfare worker in the city to look to the whole city."

Dr. SYED TAJUDDIN :—" Since the responsibility of the Government is of a collective nature will the Hon. Minister see his way to influence the Hon. Minister in charge of Public Health so as to provide a venereal section in the taluk hospitals also? "

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Luckily the Hon. Minister in charge of Public Health knows the question very well and he does not need any further influence."

Sri B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, what steps have been taken by the Government to find out the incidence of immoral traffic and whether there is any increase in it? "

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I do not think we have taken any census or undertaken a research regarding the incidence of immoral traffic. I speak subject to correction."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" Have the Government considered the question of requesting the lady Member, Mrs. Clubwala, to take over the whole Department and giving her sufficient financial assistance to see that there is no immoral traffic? "

21st January 1950]

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There is no necessity to request the hon. Member because she has been a pioneer in this work against immoral traffic and to redeem people from that and she has been doing that work and helping us to the maximum extent."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that we have no funds though we have enough workers? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Yes, Sir, the hon. Member, Mrs. Clubwala, has brought the paucity of funds to the notice of Government and we are trying to do our best to help her in the matter."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that I have asked this question at least thrice and I get the same answer? "

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that dancing conduces to immoral traffic in the name of art? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, dancing on the other hand is a very good art which redeem people from immoral traffic."

Formation of the Andhra Province.

* 119 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the All-India Congress Committee desired to know the views of the Government of Madras on the question of the formation of the Andhra Province in accordance with the report of the Linguistic Provinces Committee;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether the Government expressed their views and if so, what they are;

(*c*) whether the views of the Government of Madras were communicated to the Government of India also;

(*d*) whether the Government of Madras are in receipt of any communication on the subject from the Government of India;

(*e*) if the answer to (*d*) is in the affirmative, what the nature and contents of the communication are;

(*f*) whether the Government of Madras have submitted their views to the Government of India; and

(*g*) whether it is proposed to consult the Legislature before the Government finalize their views as promised in the Legislative Council?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of the Hon. Premier) :—" (*a*) The Working Committee of the A.I.C.C. desired to know the views of this Government in the matter.